Dear Dave, 3/13/94

We enjoyed your 3/9 on the Menominees very much.

I think being able to prove that they lived where they now live so very long ago is quite something.

Obey's people are hard workers if they met with you and others at 5 a.m.!

There is not much new here. I've sent you all on Case Open and I've heard nothing since.

Yesterday and this morning I drafted a long article on Posner and his book. I may start reading and correcting it after I write this but I will not have time to get far into it because today I'm taking off to listen to a preseason baseball game. It is too long for most magazines and I have no easy way of approaching any of them. I've limited this to his thievery, Hui and Failure Analysis, and the Hartogs.

I suppose it is about 8,000 words.

I'm rather looking forward to tomorrow's visit from two on the Post's Outlook staff. They did not say why they want to come and I did not ask.

Keck and a friend will be here before you return from your two weeks in various libraries. Hope your searches succeed! I think Lincoln is a man we should know more about and understand better than we were taught in school.

Did I ever tell you that the very first book I owned was a Lincoln biography for children? It was given to me by a fine Welsh couple who lived across that street on which we then lived in Phila. I can't remember now whether that was because I was by then going to the library about a mile away or whether that is what got me started going to that library. Of the books I got there the only one I remember is The Swamp Fox, a biography of Mad Anthony Wayne. So I guess my first reading as a child was of history. I remember that when we moved to Wilmington, when I was not quite 10, I think, my interests spread to animal stories. Of them today I remember only one, Bob, Son of Battle. A story about a dog.

But Mary Pritchard hit me when I was receptive and prejudiced me in favor of Lincoln when I was a tot.

I'm sorry that the writer for the Milwaukee magazine is so ignorant and so unaware of it! I think a good native American story in it would do some good and help the haters hate less and understand more and better.

Looking out the livingroom windows there is but one place where the snow has gone. That is beneath that clump of pines immediately below them toward the pond. Probably because the sun does not hit it as long. Elsewhere most has melted and run off.

And looking farthur in that direction, past the pond, we have several trees down.

Mice found their way into the air filter compartment and stocked it with sunflower seeds the birds wasted. Got that cleaned out Tuesday.

Our best, Harold

5/16 Jerry was here for the first time in some weeks yesterday. He is interested in your Lincoln work.

Jeffrey Frank and Jefferson Morley I think wanted just to meet me and ask me some questions. They both made a good impression on Lil and on me. Frank was interested in having a copy of the Porner article but not for the Post. He wanted to read it. I gave him a copy. He asked me if I have ever been in touch with Peters on either The Washingtonian or Washington Monthly. I told him I'd not been but if he is interested in the artfile, fine!

Frank is, I think, about 50 and Morley is in his 30s. Morley is the one who wrote that fine article on John Newman's House oversight (Conyers) committee testimony.

We rambled and they interrupted with new questions before I'd finished responses so when I remembered that I wrote Frank at some length to complete those responses.

Morley apparently works for a magazine titled Spin from what he told Lil. He was wearing a winter jacket with that name on the back. Never heard of it. Age?

No stupid questions but they did want to know who I thought was behind it all. I told them what I have always believed and said, that we cannot pinpoint and that it was by some who wanted policy changed.

Our nights are still freezing of near that but the days are now warmer and nicer.

H